Modern Art And Italian Vistas On View At UNH Art Gallery

Lori Wright
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DURHAM, N.H. – This fall, scenes of Italy by contemporary New Hampshire artists and modern art from two private collections will be presented at The Art Gallery at the University of New Hampshire.

View from Italy: UNH Artists in Ascoli Piceno and A Singular Vision: Selections from Two New England Collections open with a preview reception Friday, Oct. 29, from 5-7:30 p.m. and run through Dec. 13. The reception is open to the public; admission is free.

View from Italy: UNH Artists in Ascoli Piceno focuses on views of the rich, vibrant landscape of the Italian countryside created by artists who are UNH faculty members, alumni, and students. The UNH-in-Italy program is located in Ascoli Piceno, a small city in the foothills of the Sibylline Mountains. For the past two summers, members of the Department of Art & Art History’s intensive summer art program have explored and interpreted through paintings and drawings the Italian people, beautiful piazzas, and tranquil landscape.

Presenting works in the exhibition are the program coordinators and art professors, Grant Drumheller, Craig Hood, and Scott Schnepf, as well as painters Elizabeth Doherty, Brett Gamache, Lindy Carroll, and Rob Colvin. According to Drumheller, this successful, annual program offers an opportunity for artists who want “to experience the seductive and lyrical landscape of the southern Marches region with the delight of new adventures, fabled cities newly encountered, and foreign tastes and experiences newly sampled. As more than one student has said in retrospect, ‘It was a life-changing experience. I’d do it again in a heartbeat.’”

A Singular Vision: Selections from Two New England Collections highlights more than 60 works of art that have been collected by an artist and an art patron over the past half-century. This exhibition consists of works
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Brett Gamache, Meletti Café, 2004, oil on linen, 16" x 13"

Art world luminaries such as Salvador Dali, Picasso, André Masson, Max Ernst, Judy Pfaff, and Claes Oldenburg are represented, as well as artists with a connection to New England: Leonard Baskin, Peter Milton, Todd Webb, Beverly Hallam, and John Laurent. In the future, these two collections will merge to become a single entity: the Surf Point Foundation Collection.

Highlights in A Singular Vision include a 1951 color lithograph, Tête de Roi, by Picasso; a vibrant abstract print by Judy Pfaff, who was recently awarded $500,000 as a 2004 Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation; a complex pencil rendering of Wentworth-by-the-Sea by Jayne Dwyer; a sensitively rendered still life, Ceremony of Innocence, by Maine artist Alan Magee; and one of William Wegman’s humorous large-scale Polaroid photographs of his Weimereiner dogs, Ray and Mrs. Lubner in Bed Watching T.V.

ArtBreak Series Programs
Wednesdays, noon-1 p.m., The Art Gallery, Paul Creative Arts Center

* Nov. 3: Performance/Discussion: Coping with Copenhagen
* Nov. 10: Gallery Talk: La Bella Veduta
* Nov. 17: Concert by the UNH Chamber Singers
* Dec. 1: Performance: Portsmouth’s Players Ring present an excerpt from the holiday classic, A Christmas Carol.
* Dec. 8: Concert: UNH’s all-female a cappella group, Maiden Harmony, performs holiday favorites.

The Art Gallery presents exhibitions, special events, and weekly ArtBreak programs to the general public, free of charge. Hours of operation during the academic year are Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. The museum is closed on Fridays, University holidays, and during exhibition changes. The exhibitions and programs are supported in part by the Friends of The Art Gallery.

Guided group tours for schools, organizations, clubs, and others are available with advance reservation by contacting Catherine Wright, Education and Publicity Coordinator, at 603-862-3713 or at catherine.wright@unh.edu. For more information on the exhibitions and programs, contact The Art Gallery at 603-862-3712, art.gallery@unh.edu, or visit our Website: www.unh.edu/art-gallery.

The following high-resolution images from the exhibition, A Singular Vision: Selections from Two New England Collections, are available for downloading:

http://www.unh.edu/news/img/artgallery/Magee.JPG
Alan Magee, Ceremony of Innocence, 1984, lithograph, 18 7/16" x 25 11/16"

http://www.unh.edu/news/img/artgallery/Welliver.JPG
Neil Welliver, Wood Duck, 1985, hand-colored etching, 24" x 25 1/2"
The following high-resolution images from the exhibition, View from Italy: UNH Artists in Ascoli Piceno, are available for downloading:

http://www.unh.edu/news/img/artgallery/BrettGamache.JPG
Brett Gamache, Meletti Café, 2004, oil on linen, 16" x 13"

http://www.unh.edu/news/img/artgallery/ElizabethDoherty.JPG
Elizabeth Doherty, Sienna Vista (Out Grant's Window), 2004, oil on linen, 4" x 4"

http://www.unh.edu/news/img/artgallery/RobColvin.JPG
Rob Colvin, Street Scene IV, 2004, oil on linen, 8" x 13"